Message Text

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USIAEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, IAEA, OCON, JA

SUBJECT: JUNE MEETING OF IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

AGENCY'S BUDGET FOR 1979

REF: (A) STATE 140643, (B) STATE 141243

1. AS QUICKLY AS APPOINTMENT COULD BE ARRANGED WITH MOFA, EMBOFF CALLED ON HIROSHI OHTA AND MAKOTO WATANABE OF UN BUREAU TO GO OVER GOJ POSITION ON IAEA 1979 BUDGET. (WATANABE IS DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIVISION OF UN BUREAU, AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDLING SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF BUDGETS FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS).

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- 2. EMBOFF USED TALKING POINTS CONTAINED IN REFTELS BUT FOUND IT NECESSARY TO EXPLAIN THAT REASON FOR DEMARCHE WAS THAT JAPAN HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH FRANCE IN LATTER'S PROPOSAL TO PUT 15 CEILING ON INCREASES IN AGENCY BUDGETS.
- 3. OHTA REPLIED THAT POSITION ATTRIBUTED TO GOJ DID NOT

ACCURATELY REFLECT JAPANESE STAND. GOJ WAS NOW PREPARED TO SUPPORT DIRECTOR GENERAL'S BUDGET AFTER HE HAD MADE \$2 MILLION CUT, PROVIDED THAT REVISED BUDGET IS GENERALLY SUPPORTED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF BOARD. HE WENT ON TO STATE THAT GOJ VIEW ON NEED FOR INCREASING SAFEGUARDS BUDGET WAS IDENTICAL TO THAT OF USG, BUT THAT EVERY EFFORT HAS TO BE MADE TO APPLY CONSTRAINTS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

EVER-INCREASING AGENCY DEMANDS FOR FUNDS. WHILE MOFA UNDERSTOOD NEED FOR BALANCING EXPANDED SAFEGUARDS BUDGET WITH SOME INCREASE IN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO LDC'S, FINANCE MINISTRY DID NOT HOLD SAME QUANTITATIVE VIEW, AND MUCH PERSUASION WOULD BE NEEDED IN FUTURE YEARS TO OBTAIN ADDED FUNDS.

4. WATANABE SAID THAT CLOSE EXAMINATION OF BUDGET DETAILS HAD REVEALED THAT THERE WERE STILL UNCERTAINTIES AS TO NEED FOR ENTIRE AMOUNT REQUESTED. HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY INCREASED OPERATING COSTS ASSESSED TO IAEA FOR OCCUPANCY OF DONAU PARK AND SAID THAT ONLY SIX-MONTH PERIOD OF SUCH INCREASE WAS SHOWN AND THEREFORE FUTURE EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH NEW QUARTERS COULD NOT BE ACCURATELY ESTIMATED. HE ALSO SAID THAT GOJ MISSION IN VIENNA HAD CALCULATED THAT 20 OF BUDGET COULD BE SPENT IN DOLLARS, THEREBY SAVING ABOUT \$1 MILLION IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COSTS DUE TO DOLLAR/SCHILLING EXCHANGE RATE PROBLEM. HE NOTED THAT AGENCY'S BUDGET APPEARED TO ASSUME THAT ESSENTIALLY ALL EXPENSES WERE IN SCHILLINGS IN CALCULATING EFFECT OF EXCHANGE RATE CHANGE. (EMBASSY WAS NOT IN POSITION TO REBUT THESE CLAIMS IF REBUTTAL IS NECESSARY, SINCE IT DOES NOT HAVE AGENCY'S BUDGET DOCUMENT).

5. TWO OFFICIALS SUMMARIZED THEIR POSITION BY REITERATING GOJ POSITION THAT (A) INCREASE IN SAFEGUARDS BUDGET IS NECESSARY; (B) A MINIMUM INCREASE IN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE SOUGHT; AND (C) A GENERAL POLICY OF FISCAL CONSTRAINT SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR AGENCY. MANSFIELD

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